Persons killed/injured in Elections

734. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of persons killed and injured separately in election violence during the General Election, 1991 between the nomination of candidates and constitution of the Tenth Lok Sabha;

(b) the break-up of fatal casualties, State and Union Territory-wise with the average electorate per casualty in each case; and

(c) the details of Parliamentary constituencies in which at least one life was lost with the number of lives lost in each of them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Delay in Disposal of Cases

735. SHRI SOBHANA DRESWARA RAO VADDE: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some of the Acts framed several decades ago and the legal procedure are responsible in abnormal delay in disposal of cases; and

(b) if so, the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to bring forward necessary amendments to the various statutes which affect the common people and to simplify legal procedure to avoid delay in disposal of cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) and (b) A Committee of three Chief Justices of High Court was constituted by the Government in January, 1989, to study the problem of arrears in Courts and to suggest remedial measures. The Committee identified several reasons for Delays viz. litigation explosion, long arguments and prolix judgements, failure to utilise grouping of cases, increase in legislative activity etc. The Committee made available to the Government in September, 1990 several recommendations in this regard covering various aspects like jurisdictional and procedural modifications/improvements including amendment of Civil Procedure Code, Criminal Procedure Code, Section 17 of Indian Divorce Act, Constitution of India, the Commission of Inquiry Act, Arbitration Act, Limitation Act, etc. and also amendment of State Statutes and High Court Rules. These recommendations have been forwarded to all concerned such as Central Ministries/Departments, State Governments/UT Administrations and High Courts for implementation.

Modernisation of sick Textile Units

736. SHRI PRAKASHBAPU VASANTRAO PATIL: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have chalked out any comprehensive scheme for modernisation of sick textile units;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) to (c) A Textile Modernisation Fund with a corpus of Rs. 750 crores was set up

by Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI) on 1-8-86 to meet the modernisation requirements of textile mills. A part of the fund was earmarked to provide special loan assistance to weak but viable units as a part of the promoters' contribution to enable them to avail of modernisation assistance. As on 31-5-91 an amount of Rs. 747.45 crores has been disbursed in 280 cases.

Renewal of Certificates of Export Houses

737. PROF. K. V. THOMAS: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Import and Export policy for 1988-91 is applicable for renewal of Export House Certificates which were granted during 1987-88 and expired on 31-3-1991; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b) Export House Certificates issued during the policy period 1987-88 being valid for 3 years are not automatically valid beyond 31-3-91 However, as per the provisions contained in the Import-Export Policy 1990-93, requests from such exporters for renewal of the certificate for a further period of one year were considered even in case where they did not qualify for renewal on the basis of normal provisions, provided they were eligible for such renewal on the basis of relevant provisions as contained in the Import-Export Policy 1988-91.

Setting up of a Bench of Kerala High Court at Trivandrum

738. PROF. K. V. THOMAS: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Government to set up a bench of the Kerala High Court at Trivandrum;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the time by which this bench is likely to be set up; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) In their letter dated 2-4-1985, the Government of Kerala stated that they had not taken a final view regarding the setting up of a bench of the Kerala High Court. No further communication has been received from the State Government in this regard.

Construction of National Highway from Parur to Edapally

739. PROF. K. V. THOMAS: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made in the construction of the National Highway from Parur to Edapally in Cochin;

(b) whether the construction of Varapuzha bridge has not yet started;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to complete this section of the National Highway at the earliest?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) to (d) National Highway No. 17 already connects Parur and Edapally except for a missing bridge across Varapuzha River. Construction of this bridge will be taken up